

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The current listing of the claims replaces all previous amendments and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) An applicator comprising:

at least one tube having a first end;

at least one plug disposed inside the tube, said at least one plug comprising at least one of a liquid and a powder; and

at least a first substance contained in an inside space of the tube, wherein a first end of the inside space is defined by the plug, said plug being arranged, in use, to be expelled together with the first substance when it leaves the inside space of the tube by the first end of the tube;

the applicator further comprising at least one second substance different from the first substance and dissociated therefrom prior to use, said second substance being adjacent the first end or expelled from the tube at the first end of the tube.

2. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second substances are separated from each other by an extra component.

3. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 2, wherein the extra component is a plug comprising at least one of a liquid and a powder.

4. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second substances constitute two phases that are in contact with each other.

5. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second substances contain respective compounds that are incompatible.

6. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 4, wherein the two phases occupy respective fractions of the length of the tube, with a single interface between the phases.

7. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 4, wherein one of the phases is dispersed in the other phase in the form of globules.

8. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 7, wherein the globules are disposed at regular intervals from one another.

9. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 4, wherein the tube contains more than two substances corresponding to more than two phases.

10. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the applicator includes two tubes each containing a substance.

11. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 10, wherein a plug comprising at least one of a liquid and a powder is disposed inside each tube.

12. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the tube includes an internal partition defining two compartments in which the substances are contained, respectively.

13. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 12, wherein at least one of the compartments extends over the full length of the tube.

14. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, further including an applicator element.

15. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the applicator element is porous.

16. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the applicator element is selected from the group consisting of: a cotton bud; a foam bud; a felt tip; a flocked bud; a tip made of ceramic or of sintered material; and a pad.

17. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the applicator element includes one of a brush and a comb.

18. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the second substance impregnates the applicator element.

19. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the second substance is dispersed in the applicator element.

20. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the second substance is grafted on one of fibers and bristles of the applicator element.

21. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the second substance is fixed on one of fibers and bristles of the applicator element.

22. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the second substance is configured to form at least a portion of the applicator element.

23. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 14, wherein the second substance is present in the form of a layer of a surface of the applicator element.

24. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the applicator does not include an applicator element.

25. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one plug includes at least one liquid selected from the group consisting of: mineral oils; fluorine-containing substances; and silicones.

26. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one plug comprises at least one powder having a material selected from the group consisting of: powders of copolymer microspheres; Nylon®; a polyamide; waxes; silicas; and silicones.

27. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the inside space is defined at a second end remote from the plug by a portion of the tube that is suitable for being broken off, removed, perforated, or deformed.

28. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 10, wherein the inside space is defined at a second end remote from the plug by a portion of the tube that is suitable for being broken off, removed, perforated, or deformed, and wherein said portion is common to both tubes of the applicator.

29. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 10, wherein the inside space of each tube is defined at a second end remote from the plug by a portion of each tube that is suitable for being broken off, removed, perforated, or deformed, and wherein the portion of each tube is independent so that the portion of each tube can be broken off, removed, perforated, or deformed independent of the portion of the other tube.

30. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 27, including a retaining element for retaining said portion on the applicator after being broken off.

31. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the volume of substance contained in the at least one tube lies in the range 0.01 ml to 5 ml.

32. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the volume of substance contained in the at least one tube lies in the range 0.05 ml to 1 ml.

33. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one tube is transparent.

34. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second substances are unsuitable for being stored in contact with each other.

35. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, further including packaging in which at least one of said applicators is disposed prior to use.

36. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 35, wherein the packaging comprises an individual packaging bag for the applicator.

37. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 36, wherein the bag is hermetically sealed.

38. (Withdrawn) The applicator according to Claim 35, wherein the package comprises a string of bags each containing at least one applicator.

39. (Currently Amended) The applicator according to Claim 35, wherein the package comprise a ~~boxes~~ box in which at least one applicator can be housed.

40. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first and second substances are a nail care product.

41. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first and second substances are a hair care product.

42. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first and second substances are a make-up product.

43. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first and second substances are an eye make-up product.

44. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first and second substances are a lip make-up product.

45. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first and second substances are at least one of a make-up, a skin care product, a make-up remover, a hair product and a nail product.

46. (Original) An applicator as recited in Claim 1, wherein said first substance and said second substance are a sunless tanning product.

47. (Currently Amended) An applicator arrangement comprising:
an applicator comprising:

(a) at least one tube having a first end;

(b) a first substance disposed in the at least one tube;

(c) a second substance, wherein the second substance is dissociated from the first substance at least during a time prior to use, said second substance being adjacent the first end or expelled from the tube at the first end of the tube; and

(d) a plug, said plug comprising at least one of a liquid and a powder, and wherein, in use, at least a portion of said plug is expelled from said at least one tube along with said first substance at the first end of the tube, and wherein said plug is positioned at a location prior to use, said location being at least one of: (i) a location between said first substance and an exterior of said applicator, and (ii) a location between said first substance and said second substance.

48. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said plug is located between said first substance and an exterior of said applicator.

49. (Withdrawn) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 48, wherein said second substance is provided as a plurality of globules in said first substance.

50. (Withdrawn) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said applicator includes an applicator portion at one end of the at least one tube, and wherein said second substance is associated with said applicator portion, and further wherein said plug is positioned to close said one end of said at least one tube such that said plug is disposed both at a location which is both between said first substance and an exterior of said tube and between said first substance and said second substance.

51. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein a plurality of said plugs are provided.

52. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 51, wherein said plurality of plugs include a first plug disposed at a location between said first substance and

an exterior of said applicator, and a second plug disposed between said first substance and said second substance.

53. (Withdrawn) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 51, wherein at least two tubes are provided including a first tube containing said first substance and a second tube containing said second substance, and wherein said plurality of plugs include a first plug closing an end of said first tube and a second plug closing an end of said second tube.

54. (Withdrawn) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 53, wherein said first and second tubes are independently openable.

55. (Withdrawn) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 53, wherein a common opening device is provided for simultaneously opening said first and second tubes.

56. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, further including a packaging assembly containing a plurality of said applicators.

57. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first and second substances are a nail care product.

58. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first and second substances are a hair care product.

59. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first and second substances are a make-up product.

60. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first and second substances are an eye make-up product.

61. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first and second substances are a lip make-up product.

62. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first and second substances are at least one of a make-up, a skin care product, a make-up remover, a hair product and a nail product.

63. (Original) An applicator arrangement as recited in Claim 47, wherein said first substance and said second substance are a sunless tanning product.